

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-19 (cancelled)

Claim 20. (New) An oxygen generating composition for producing a breathable gas upon ignition of the composition, comprising:

tin powder as a fuel;

strontium peroxide as a sole catalyst for the oxygen generating composition; and

an oxygen source selected from the group consisting of alkali metal chlorates, alkali metal perchlorates, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 21. (New) The oxygen generating composition of Claim 20, further comprising a binder.

Claim 22. (New) The oxygen generating composition of Claim 1, wherein said oxygen source is an alkali metal chlorate selected from the group consisting of sodium chlorate, potassium perchlorate, lithium perchlorate, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 23. (New) The oxygen generating composition of Claim 21, wherein said binder is an inorganic binder selected from the group consisting of glass powder, glass fiber, ceramic fiber, bentonite, kaolinite and mixtures thereof.

Claim 24. (New) An oxygen generating composition for producing a breathable gas upon ignition of the composition, comprising:

from zero to about 15% by weight of tin powder as a fuel;

about 0.1-20% by weight strontium peroxide as a sole catalyst for the oxygen generating composition;

from zero to about 5% of a binder; and

the remainder of an oxygen source selected from the group consisting of alkali metal chlorates, alkali metal perchlorates, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 25. (New) The oxygen generating composition of Claim 24, wherein said oxygen source is an alkali metal chlorate selected from the group consisting of sodium chlorate, potassium perchlorate, lithium perchlorate, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 26. (New) The oxygen generating composition of Claim 24, wherein said binder is an inorganic binder selected from the group consisting of glass powder, glass fiber, ceramic fiber, bentonite, kaolinite and mixtures thereof.

Claim 27. (New) An oxygen generating composition for producing a breathable oxygen gas upon ignition of the composition, comprising:

from zero to about 12% by weight of tin powder as a fuel;

about 1-6% by weight strontium peroxide as a sole catalyst for the oxygen generating composition;

from zero to about 5% of a binder; and

the remainder of an oxygen source selected from the group consisting of alkali metal chlorates, alkali metal perchlorates, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 28. (New) The oxygen generating composition of Claim 27, wherein said oxygen source is an alkali metal chlorate selected from the group consisting of sodium chlorate, potassium perchlorate, lithium perchlorate, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 29. (New) The oxygen generating composition of Claim 27, wherein said binder is an inorganic binder selected from the group consisting of glass powder, glass fiber, ceramic fiber, bentonite, kaolinite and mixtures thereof.